

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 074243
ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00
EA-12 EUR-12 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 IO-14 L-03
NASA-02 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 SP-02 PA-02 DOE-15
CEQ-01 OES-07 SS-15 USIA-15 /171 R

DRAFTED BY ACDA/PA:JMPOPE:CF
APPROVED BY ACDA/PA:TAHALSTED
-----093526 222356Z /65

P 222137Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 074243

USSALTTWO/CTB

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: MARCH 22 ROUNDUP: PRESS ITEMS OF ARMS CONTROL
INTEREST

LONDON FOR AMB/EX

1. NATO COMMANDER ALEXANDER M. HAIG, AT WASHINGTON NEWS
CONFERENCE TUESDAY, SAID "RATHER DRAMATIC SHIFT IN NUCLEAR
BALANCES" IS IN PROGRESS AND THAT DEPLOYMENT OF SOVIET
UNION'S SS-20 MISSILE IS HAVING HEAVY IMPACT ON BALANCE OF
FORCES. CHARLES CORDDRY OF BALTIMORE SUN SAID HAIG
STRESSED THAT SOVIET UNION IS "RAPIDLY APPROACHING"
EQUALITY WITH WEST IN NUMBERS OF TACTICAL, OR BATTLEFIELD,
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 074243

NUCLEAR WEAPONS. HAIG, IN WASHINGTON FOR CONFERENCES AND
CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY, "SAW ADVANCES OF SOVIET AND
ALLIED WARSAW PACT FORCES AS BUTTRESSING CASE FOR
STRENGTHENING BOTH CONVENTIONAL AND TACTICAL NUCLEAR ARMS
OF ALLIANCE, POSSIBLY INCLUDING NEW MISSILE LIKE SOVIET-
SS-20," CORDDRY REPORTED. SUN CORRESPONDENT SAID HAIG
"ENTERED NEW ENDORSEMENT OF NEUTRON WARHEAD" AS ONE NEEDED

ITEM FOR MODERNIZING NATO FORCES. ON QUESTION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, HAIG TOLD NEWSMEN U.S. STOCKPILE OF MORE THAN 7,000 WARHEADS IN EUROPE WAS SEEN NOT LONG AGO AS EXCESSIVE BUT "THIS IS NO LONGER TRUE."

2. GEORGE WILSON OF WASHINGTON POST SAID HAIG INSISTED THAT DEPLOYING NEUTRON WARHEAD IN EUROPE WOULD DECREASE RATHER THAN INCREASE CHANCE THAT NUCLEAR WAR WOULD BE WAGED THERE. HAIG, WILSON REPORTED, TOLD PENTAGON NEWS CONFERENCE THAT NEW WEAPON WOULD HAVE MORE CREDIBILITY IN EYES OF SOVIETS THAN TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS NOW IN EUROPE. "UTILITY OF WEAPON, ITS USABILITY, ITS CREDIBILITY IN EYES OF SOVIETS THAN TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS NOW IN EUROPE. "UTILITY OF WEAPON, ITS USABILITY, ITS CREDIBILITY GENERALLY IN DETERRENCE TERMS," HAIG SAID, "CONTRIBUTE TO REALITY THAT IT WILL NOT HAVE TO BE USED." HAIG ADDED THAT "IT'S OUR MILITARY VIEW" THAT NEUTRON WARHEAD "RAISES, NOT LOWERS, NUCLEAR THRESHOLD." HAIG SAID MILITARY AUTHORITIES IN NATO BELIEVE IT "IS SOMEWHAT LUDICROUS" TO FOCUS "SO LITTLE" ON SOVIET SS-20 MISSILE TARGETED ON NATO WHICH IS "2,000 TIMES MORE DEVASTATING IN ITS EXPLOSIVE CONSEQUENCE."

3. WALTER PINCUS OF WASHINGTON POST REPORTED THAT WITH WHITE HOUSE APPROVAL, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY HAS BEGUN TO TRANSFER TO OTHER NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROJECTS FUNDS ORIGIN-
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 074243

ALLY EARMARKED FOR TESTING AND PRODUCTION OF NEUTRON WEAPONS THIS FISCAL YEAR. "SHOULD PRESIDENT CARTER EVENTUALLY DECIDE TO BUILD CONTROVERSIAL NEW GENERATION OF TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS, SHIFT OF FUNDS NOW UNDER WAY COULD POSTPONE, PROBABLY UNTIL 1979, START ON PRODUCTION," PINCUS SAID. HE QUOTED ENERGY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN AS SAYING "WE DID NOT EXPECT THIS LONG DELAY IN NEUTRON DECISION." PINCUS SAID STATE DEPARTMENT SOURCE STATED LAST WEEK HE EXPECTED CARTER NEUTRON DECISION BY MID-APRIL "SO MATTER WILL BE DEBATED BY CONGRESS AND OUT OF WAY" BY END OF MAY WHEN NATO SUMMIT MEETING IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE IN WASHINGTON. PINCUS, QUOTING CARTER AIDES, SAID PRESIDENT HAS MAINTAINED THAT ALLIES MUST JOIN WITH HIM IN MAKING PRODUCTION DECISION. "SOME CARTER AIDES ARE PROPOSING THAT PRODUCTION BE DELAYED WHILE DISARMAMENT AVENUES WITH SOVIETS ARE EXPLORED," PINCUS CONTINUED. HE SAID BEFORE NEUTRON EIGHT-INCH SHELL CAN BE BUILT, ENERGY DEPARTMENT HAS TO CONSTRUCT 45 MILLION DOLLARS IN SPECIAL FACILITIES FOR ITS FABRICATION. 23 MILLION DOLLARS IN FISCAL 1978 MONEY FOR THAT PROJECT HAS BEEN PUT INTO ANOTHER PROGRAM.

4. NEW YORK TIMES REPORTED THAT U.S., USSR AND BRITAIN RECESSED CTB NEGOTIATIONS FOR MONTH AFTER TALKS HAD REACHED WHAT WARNKE DESCRIBED TUESDAY AS "RELATIVELY CRITICAL STAGE." WARNKE TOLD CCD IT WAS BECAUSE NEGOTIATIONS WERE AT THIS STAGE THAT THREE POWERS HAD BEEN "BIT CAUTIOUS" IN REPORT TO 30-NATION FORUM. REPORT,

PRESENTED LAST WEEK, SAID "SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS" HAD BEEN MADE AND THAT "NUMBER OF IMPORTANT POINTS" HAD BEEN AGREED UPON, TIMES SAID. "ADDRESSING DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE TODAY (TUESDAY), MR. WARNKE SAID THAT FOR THREE POWERS TO ATTEMPT TO SAY MORE IN AN AGREED STATEMENT AT THIS TIME 'COULD REOPEN OR EXACERBATE QUESTIONS INVOLVED IN NEGOTIATION ITSELF AND PREJUDICE THEIR SOLUTION.'" UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 074243

5. HENRY BRADSHER OF WASHINGTON STAR REPORTED THAT CONGRESSIONAL STUDY DOCUMENTING CHANGE IN U.S.-USSR MILITARY BALANCE IS BEING WITHHELD FROM PUBLICATION BY STRUGGLE ON CAPITOL HILL. BRADSHER SAID STUDY SAYS THAT, WITH ONLY SCATTERED EXCEPTIONS, QUANTITATIVE CHANGES IN U.S. AND USSR ARMED FORCES SINCE 1962 CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS "FAVOR SOVIET UNION. U.S. QUALITATIVE SUPERIORITY, LESS PRONOUNCED THAN IN PAST, IS SLOWLY SLIPPING AWAY." BRADSHER SAID 495-PAGE STUDY IS THIRD OF ANNUAL STUDIES WRITTEN BY JOHN M. COLLINS, RETIRED ARMY COLONEL AND WRITER ON STRATEGY WHO NOW WORKS FOR CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE. HIS FIRST STUDY WAS WIDELY QUOTED, BUT HIS SECOND WAS DENIED PUBLICATION BY CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES AND FINALLY PUT INTO CONGRESSIONAL RECORD LAST SUMMER. REP. JOHN BRECKINRIDGE REQUESTED EXPANDED THIRD VERSION TO UPDATE MILITARY RELATIONSHIP AND RAISE BASIC QUESTIONS ABOUT U.S. MILITARY POSTURE, BRADSHER REPORTED. BRECKINRIDGE HAS BEEN TRYING TO GET STUDY PUBLISHED BY HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE SO THAT IT WILL BE WIDELY AVAILABLE, BRADSHER SAID, BUT COMMITTEE IS RELUCTANT TO ACCEPT STUDY. "ONE REASON REPORTEDLY IS APPREHENSION OF PRECEDENT OF HAVING INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS COMMISSION STUDIES AND THEN GIVING THEM COMMITTEE STATUS," HE SAID. IN HIS STUDY, COLLINS "IMPLIES STRONGLY THAT WHOLE CONCEPT OF AMERICAN DEFENSE NEEDS TO BE RESTUDIED RATHER THAN JUST POURING MORE RESOURCES INTO THESE PROGRAMS," BRADSHER SAID. STAR WRITER SAID "UNDERLYING THEME" OF COLLINS STUDY CONCERNS U.S. DECISION TO STRIP THIS COUNTRY OF DEFENSES "WHILE THINKING SOVIET UNION IS PECULIAR TO SPEND SO MUCH MONEY ON ANTI-AIRCRAFT WEAPONS, CIVIL DEFENSE AND RESEARCH INTO ANTI-BALLISTIC MISSILE SYSTEMS." "AMERICAN MILITARY THINKERS HAVE ARGUED FOR YEARS THAT UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 074243

KREMLIN IS WASTING MONEY ON SUCH DEFENSES BECAUSE
MODERN TECHNOLOGY CAN FIND WAYS THROUGH THEM. BUT IN
COMBINATION, THEY OFFER SOVIET UNION DEGREE OF PROTECTION
FROM ATTACK THAT U.S. HAS RENOUNCED. COLLINS SAYS
MILITARY HISTORIANS ARE UNABLE TO FIND ANY OTHER EXAMPLE
OF GREAT POWER THAT ABANDONED DEFENSE OF ITS HOMELAND." VANCE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMS, PRESS SUMMARIES, SALT (ARMS CONTROL)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE074243
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JPMPOPE:CF
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780127-0200
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780335/aaaabdxh.tel
Line Count: 181
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: de4f1fbf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ACDA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3234385
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MARCH 22 ROUNDUP: PRESS ITEMS OF ARMS CONTROL INTEREST LONDON FOR AMB/EX
TAGS: PARM, SOPN
To: GENEVA USSALTTWO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/de4f1fbf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014